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Presented by Amherst College.

DR. MOORE.



Extract from Rev. T. Snell's Sermon, delivered at the Interment of Rev. Dr. Moore, President of the Collegiate Institution, in Amherst, Mass. Text, Job xxv, 2.—“Dominion and fear are with him.”

The death of Dr. Moore is deservedly and deeply lamented by all who knew him, and most of all, by those who knew him best.

It is not the object of our meeting, nor the business of the preacher, to eulogize the dead, nor to express all, that the feelings of friendship and esteem, resulting from long and intimate acquaintance, would suggest; still, for the honour of God's grace and the benefit of the living, it is a duty to bear our testimony to sanctified talents and eminent usefulness.

The God of nature made Dr. Moore a *great* man; his grace, we reasonably believe, made him a *good* man; and his providence, we know, made him a *useful* man. His mind was of the higher order and well disciplined. His early habits of close application and unremitting diligence, strengthened and improved his intellectual powers, rapidly increased his fund of knowledge, and early ripened him for usefulness in public places. He thought with unusual correctness, studied with system, and acted with system.—Premises he would not assume, nor *admit* without strict examination; but when he believed them to be just, he would defend them with ability and fairness, till by increased light he saw his error. No man was more ready to retract, when convinced that he was *wrong*. In his discourses upon every subject there was method, connexion, and consist-

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ency. He was able in argument—lucid and happy in his illustrations—just and forcible in his deductions.

Dr. Moore was deservedly ranked amongst our best theologians. Being set for the defence of the gospel, he preached the doctrines of grace with no ordinary ability, and defended them in a spirit of meekness. These doctrines he loved—on these he hung his most precious hopes of heaven—and to these as the only sure foundation, he constantly directed the attention of his hearers, with much affection and prayerfulness. His sermons always contained important truth—were richly stored with matter; so that every attentive hearer must feel himself instructed, if not convinced and reformed. While defending the truth and exposing error, he studiously avoided bitterness of spirit and harshness of expression, which so poorly recommend the gospel of peace. His manner was remarkably simple and unaffected; free from all effort to display himself. He modestly retired behind his subject, leaving his hearers to look at the truth, and not to admire the man. His tenderness, assiduity, and faithfulness in discharging the duties of the pastoral office, won the love and confidence of the people of his early charge.

Dr. Moore, as we might expect from his information, talents, and candor, was excellent in counsel. His advice might be followed with honor and safety; especially, since it appeared to be his first inquiry, *Is it right? Is it duty? Will it subserve the interests of Zion?* These seemed to be his serious and devout enquiries, as he removed from one scene of action to another, as well as when giving counsel to those who asked it.

Dr. Moore filled every station he occupied with *propriety*—with honor to himself, with usefulness to others, and with general and high satisfaction to all immediately concerned. Since diligence and punctuality marked the whole course of his public life, and he pursued his object with great energy and steadiness of aim, we never hear him charged with delinquency in duty, or deficiency in qualifications for his station.

In the social circle, he was pleasant, and instructive in his conversation, equally removed from moroseness on the one hand and levity and trifling on the other. He condescended to men of low estate—brought himself down to every virtuous and honest mind, without sinking his own character or losing any thing of the dignity of his station. His house presented a scene of hospitality, and not only his acquaintance, but also strangers, were at once embosomed in his family, and made to feel themselves at home. He

possessed an uncommon share of benevolent sensibility, feeling the woes, and rejoicing in the happiness of others.

But Dr. Moore most happily excelled as an Instructor of youth and a presiding officer in College. While his classical acquisitions were highly respectable, he combined certain qualifications which rarely meet in the same man, and which eminently fitted him for the station that he several years filled with so much celebrity. He possessed great decision and firmness of character, united with uncommon tenderness and affection toward the youth whose literary pursuits he was directing. They always found him easy of access, and, within the bounds of propriety, could open their minds to him with unrestrained freedom. He listened to their complaints, attended to their concerns, was rich in his instructions, judicious in his advice—He won their hearts—they knew him to be their friend. The young men in this seminary will bear me witness, that he has been a father to them and faithfully laboured to promote their good. They will ever cherish a grateful recollection of his affectionate concern for their best interests; and especially, as in their anxious enquiries about their personal salvation, he was instrumental of guiding them to CHRIST crucified, as their only helper and their rest.

Dr. Moore raised the reputation of every literary institution with which he became connected. He early gained the confidence of the community as a judicious and faithful man, while his successful and approved labors in the church increased his weight of character, and his social virtues secured the love and respect of all his acquaintance, except the open enemies of truth and virtue. He was a lovely man—a pillar in the church and in our temple of science—not the blazing meteor which glares for a moment and dies; *but the shining light that shineth more and more.*

But however faithful, amiable, and useful, he must die.—My brethren, he is dead—there lies his mortal part. Alas, our brother! We will mourn, but will not repine. We will mingle our prayers with our tears, and in belief of the happy resurrection of the just, we will take up these remains and bury them, and remember that *we* also are to die.

The death of Dr. Moore is a mysterious event. The friends of this Collegiate Seminary over which he presided, the surviving faculty, the guardians and benefactors of it, and all his brethren in the ministry, will say, “*Surely this is a mysterious event.*” To understand this dispensation of DIVINE PROVIDENCE, we must look between the folded leaves of this opening volume. GOD must give his own in-

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terpretation. "*Dominion is with him.*" He raised him up—the object is answered—his work is finished—God has laid him aside. And if he means to use this Collegiate Institution to promote the interests of his kingdom—the prosperity of his church—this event in some unknown way, will contribute to its growth and extend its usefulness. Let those who have indulged the hope, that this infant seminary would be an handmaid to Zion, and under this impression, have been laboring to establish it upon a permanent and respectable foundation, remember, that this event stands connected with many others, yet unseen. Though it may now darken your prospects, as, indeed, it tries your faith, yet a brighter sun may be shining behind this cloud, ready to shed his beams upon your path and present the object of your hope with greater distinctness. Cease from man; but never cease to pray. *Dominion is with God.*

Could human skill have saved this man's life—could affection, esteem, or ardent desires, have rescued him from death, he would not have died. "But God's ways and thoughts are high above ours, as the heavens are above the earth." His will is done—it is wise—it is good—it is best. Let this event quicken all CHRIST's servants and followers in duty. My brethren, be faithful. The time is short.—Soon, very soon, the LORD will say, *Give an account of thy stewardship, for thou mayest be no longer steward.*

My fellow mortals, we are all hastening to the eternal judgment. There we must meet. Sinners will mourn and saints rejoice. Prepare to meet your GOD. Be in subjection to the FATHER of spirits and live.

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